[*English*]

**Admission in Aligarh Muslim University**

2309. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA.
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "AMU gears up for showdown with Govt." appearing in the Indian Express dated January, 1992;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) A news-item captioned "AMU gears up for showdown with Govt." relating to the decision of the University to reserve 50% seats for Muslim candidates appeared in the Indian Express dated 28.1.1992.

(b) and (c). The Court of Aligarh Muslim University, in its meeting held on 20.8.1989, resolved inter alia to accept the recommendations of the Tyabji Commitee for reservation of 50% seats in Class XI, Degree Courses, Master's Courses and Professional Courses for Muslim candidates on the basis of merit. As this resolution was not in conformity with the provisions of Section 8 of the Aligarh Muslim University Act, 1920 which provides that the University shall be open to all persons of either sex and of whatever race, religion, creed or class, a show-cause-notice was issued to the University under Section 13 (6) of the Aligarh Muslim University Act for annulment of the resolution. A reply to the show-cause-notice has not been received from the University.

[*Translation*]

**Forest Fires**

2310. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the incidents of forest fires during each of the last three years State-wise;

(b) the total forest area damaged as a result thereof State-wise; ad

(c) the preventive measures taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Information is being collected from the State/UT Governments and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Central assistance for purchase of fire-fighting equipments, installation of wireless sets and construction of fire-lines is being provided to the State/UT Governments under the scheme 'Development of Infrastructure for protection of forests from Biotic interference'.

**Lifting of levy rice by FCI in U.P.**

2311. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the FCI at Bareilly in U.P. has experienced certain hurdles in lifting the levy rice at some places;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and